

VE3FW—LARC call sign honours the memory of the Founding President P.J. "Pat" O'Shea

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- Next Meeting
 Thursday
 April 13, 2006 at the
 McIntyre Building,
 Confederation College Room
 191 at 7:30 pm
- Ontario QSO Party starts
 Saturday, April 15th at 18:00Z
- CANWARN training Monday May 8, 7:30 pm at St. Johns Ambulance Centre, Fort William Road

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

HI-Q



April 2006

Police Services Radio Donation

Terry VA3LU

By now, most of the members have heard that Randy **VA3OJ** and I have been successful in obtaining the old police radio system.

In our correspondence with them, we asked to obtain the equipment for our ongoing ARES preparations. There are exactly 49 Handhelds and 54 mobiles radios along with their old voting system, and so far, 4 GE Master II repeaters. There may be one or two more as they finish cleaning up their sites.

The first order of business is to get the portable radios sorted and programmed for amateur use. In the lot of portables there were 21 Motorola Visars of which one was given as a door prize at the March meeting and 18 were put up for sale,

Because of the fact that we had very few chargers we decided to sell them as pairs with a charger for \$100.00 a pair. They were all sold at the March Meeting. Two of the Visars are not working properly- 1 is brain dead and the other needs a speaker, at least, as audio is terrible. These are put into a parts only box, no value, not worth fixing.

That leaves us with 29 MT1000 hand held radios. One problem with these is there is only 5 single chargers and 5 six bay bank chargers. Because we obtained this equipment with the purpose of our ongoing ARES preparations, we decided to keep 22 as part of our public service and ARES. Six are to be in the care of Mike VE3ZG, to be used with the trailer, public service or ARES. 10 are being put in the care of Randy VA3OJ as part of our ARES response and the other six are in the care of Terry VA3LU as part of our ARES response.

One of the MT1000 handheld receives fine but has no transmit output- added to box of parts, no value. Now I know someone will wonder why are they at some members houses? The nature of NiCad batteries are that if they set for periods of time they will lose their charge, and be useless in an emergency. Mike, Randy and myself will discharge and recharge the batteries once a month to keep batteries up and to prolong the life as long as possible.

Police radios - Continued on page 4

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

| VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600) | |
|--|---------|
| VE3BGA Hillcrest H.S. 145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 1 442.825 (+5 MHz) (10 | |
| VE3TBR St. Joseph's 146.820 (-600) 442.075 (+5 MHz) | |
| VE3YQT Mount Baldy 147.060 (-600) Phon | e Patch |

Prez Sez...



John VA3JMS

Greetings everyone, looks like winter is finally over, and with that comes the planning of field day.

The executive has put together some ideas that will be presented at the next general meeting, with the options of some great locations, as well as activities, and don't forget the now traditional "Roasting of the Turkey", or was that chicken Bill?

This year's Canwarn training will be presented by Serge Besner who is the Out Reach officer from Environment Canada's Toronto office, as well as Julie Turner from the Thunder Bay office.

Environment Canada has invited this year, members of the OPP, TBay Police, Fire Rescue, and EMO to help broaden their storm spotting coverage. Look for the date, time, and location in this issue of Hi-Q.

I would also like to give a big thank you to Randy VA3 OJ, and Brad VE3 XMJ for putting the 2m net back on the air waves. I encourage everyone to check in every Tuesday evening at 7pm on YQT to say "hi"

73's

John - VA3 JMS



Joe VE3TBX

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report Opening Balance - March 2, 2006 \$ 3,754.29

| Income | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----------|-------------|
| Memberships | \$ | 70.00 | |
| 50/50 Draw | \$ | 15.50 | |
| Sale of Old Police Radios | \$ | 1,010.00 | |
| Donations | \$ | 20.00 | |
| Interest | \$ | 0.03 | |
| Total Income | \$ | 1,115.53 | |
| Expenses | | | |
| Thunder Bay Telephone | \$ | 46.15 | |
| Bank Service Fee | \$ | 2.50 | |
| Oliver Rd. Comm.Centre Mtg | \$ | 40.00 | |
| Slovac Legion - Annual Dinner | \$ | 685.15 | |
| Total Expenses | \$ | 773.80 | |
| Closing Balance - April 5, 200 |)6 | | \$ 4,096.02 |

Joe - VE3TBX Treasurer



LARC March 9, 2006 MINUTES Terry, VA3LU

Terry VA3LU

February March 9 2006

Meeting called to order by President John Sacek VA3JMS at 7:36 P.M.

Members in attendance 28

Minutes of last meeting as printed in March Hi-Q 2006:

Moved by Norm **VE3XRC** and seconded by Judy **VA3EAP** to be accepted as printed. Motion Carried.

Treasurer report as printed in March Hi-Q 2006:

Moved by Joe VA3TBX and seconded by Glenn VE3ICY to be accepted as printed. Motion Carried.

Correspondences:

Terry VA3LU asked that we put this on hold until old business as there was a lot to talk about.

Committee Reports:

Terry **VA3LU** brought the members up to date on equipment and the result of VE3YQT outage due to a power surge that blew a fuse.

Norm **VE3XRC** brought the club up to date on the results of the Sibley Ski Tour, another successful year.

Brad **VE3MXJ** brought the club up to date on the upcoming 10 mile road race and the mayor race.

Bob **VE3RVA** updated us on trailer.

Old Business:

Terry **VA3LU** brought the club up to date on the ongoing request for a grant from Thunder Bay Fire Services. There has been numerous letters back and forth. The fact that someone in our club has gone behind our backs to a council member with a bunch of completely false accusations, has put everything on hold.

The individual has accused me and Randy **VA3OJ** of trying to obtain the grant to purchase equipment for our own personal use. He has told the council member that the club was buying CB equipment, the club was getting another grant from some federal agency, and what we were purposing was way too expensive.

Terry and Randy explained our ongoing correspondence with the Fire Services, and the fact that we had done everything we could to try and salvage the grant. Now it's just a wait and see what happens with the grant with our fingers crossed.

New Business:

Terry **VA3LU** brought the club up to date on our ongoing correspondence with the Thunder Bay Police Services Board with the successful results of obtaining all of the old police radio system.

Terry **VA3LU**, Randy **VA3OJ** and Leo **VE3ATC** made a trip to the police station and removed all of the equipment over to the Confederation College storage area with our trailer. There was approximately 45 handhelds and 45 mobiles in the equipment along with some Voting systems, repeaters and some cabinets.

Our plans are to get the stuff sorted to what may be of use to us and get rid of anything that is not. We are now putting up some handheld for sale.

John **VA3JMS** brought us up to date on the CANWARN training set for May 8 2006. This date may not be exact, and there will be a note sent with exact date and time. John also mentions that the Ice Racing for next year may be looking for volunteers.

Visar Handheld radio was won by Mike VE3HZW

50/50 Draw was won by ????

Motion to adjourn by Bob VE3RVA

Terry VA3LU, Secretary



Congratulations to Our New Senators



I had planned this space to hold pictures of our two new Senators, Terry VA3LU and Ed VE3SNW.

However, I still haven't had a chance to get together with Ed VE3SNW to get a current picture so the two photos could be shown side by side.

Ed has graciously emailed a picture of himself to me to help me out. I didn't look at it until almost press time.

Here it is!

When I opened it, I couldn't help but laugh and almost fell of the chair I was sitting in!

Ed, Somehow, I think the photo you sent in might have been touched it up a bit? It's nice, but not quite what I had in mind!

Maybe we can try again for next months issue?

-Editor



The Ontario QSO Party
runs Saturday, April 15th 18:00 Z
to Sunday, April 16th 18:00 Z
The event is now being sponsored by the Contest Club Ontario (CCO)

Contest rules are detail can be found at:

http://cco.ve3xd.com/oqp/index.htm

The idea is - the world works Ontario Amateurs :-)

It should be a lot of fun, and hope everyone spreads the word!

Please post this in HI-Q as well

Thanks

Tom VE3CX

Police radios - Continued from page 1

Five of the MT1000 were sold with the single charger for \$60.00, they are all gone.

The Mobiles are going to take a lot more work to sort and program as there is a lot of different models and some very old. There were six GM300 Radius in the lot which I programmed and they are sold to club members at \$60.00 apiece. There are some MCx100 that will be given away or thrown out because these are way to much work to modify in order to program. I'm not sure how many, 5 or 6, I think. The rest are all Trunk mount Spectra and Trunk mount MCX1000's.

The MT1000 handhelds that are being used for ARES and public service will be added to Club Inventory.

We are trying to sort though all the equipment and move it on to a buyer, John street dump, or decide if the club has a use for it. The voting system that was in the equipment pile will be gotten rid of as there is no use for it. Anything that the club keeps for their use will be added to our inventory and the rest disposed of as quick as possible. We do not want to inventory

all this stuff as we have no need for a lot of it, and if we can raise some money with it, all the better. - Terry VA3LU



Nets on IRLP Brad VE3MXJ



Here is a list of some nets on the IRLP and local frequencies. The ones that are *highlighted* are the ones, which I personally like to check into. If you have Echolink there are a lot of nets there too.

Make note that some nets change there time for DST & EST, but some keep the same time, (utc time which doesn't change)

Here is a list of some of the web sites:

http://www.hamtechnet.com/

http://www.irlp.net/

http://oeco.ca/procom.html

http://www.echolink.org/

| Net | Day (UTC) | Time (UTC) | Reflector | Contact |
|---|---------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Insomniac Net | Daily | 0600 | 9453 | N6MGW |
| NW Regional / Int'l Net | Daily | 1500 | 9205 | N1NG (Node 3957) |
| LCARC Sunday Night Net | <u>Monday</u> | <u>0000</u> | <u>9310</u> | <u>VE9NPS</u> |
| Old Dominion IRLP Net | Monday | 0000 | 9213 | ? |
| Red Cross Net | Monday | 0100 | 9258 | W7AOR |
| RailHam Net | Monday | 0200 | 9454 | WD4OXQ |
| Guam International Net | Monday | 0900 | 9254 | KH6FV |
| SSTV Net | Monday | 0900 | 9501 | ? |
| West Coast AR Assoc. | Tuesday | 0300 | 9005 | <u>VE7BEU</u> (Node 1030) |
| Saskatchewan Net | Tuesday | 0300 | 9300 | ? |
| Hams with Disabilities Net | Wednesday | 0100 | 9205 | KA9YPS |
| Hilltop Bulletin | Wednesday | 0100 | 9055 | K2EAG |
| Civil Air Search and Rescue Net | Wednesday | 0200 | 9214 | <u>VA3SHQ</u> |
| Michigan IRLP Linkup | <u>Wednesday</u> | <u>0300</u> | <u>9206</u> | <u>N8HEE</u> |
| Southern San Joaquin Valley FM Radio Net | Wednesday | 0330 | 9255 | <u>KF6KMY</u> (Node 8120) |
| VK Young Amateurs | Wednesday | 1000 | 9508 | VK3HAG |
| Blue Mountain ARC Net | Wednesday | 1000 | 9505 | VK2HZ (Node 6000) |
| Ontario ARES Net | Wednesday (Ontario) | 2000 (Ontario) | 9005 | <u>VA3RX</u> |
| Manitoba IRLP Wednesday Net | Thursday | 0100 | 9250 | VE4MGR |

(continued on next page)



NETS on IRLP (continued from previous page)

| Net | Day (UTC) | Time (UTC) | Reflector | Contact |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Renfrew County ARES Net | Thursday | 0200 | 9310 | ? |
| Saskatchewan Net | Thursday | 0300 | 9300 | ? |
| VK8 Net | Thursday | 0330 | 9508 | VK8ZMA (Node 6800) |
| VK1 WIA News | Friday | 0930 | 9505 | ? |
| VK Virtual Pub | Friday | 1000 | 9500 | <u>VK2YX</u> |
| Friday Evening Open Forum IRLP International Net | Saturday | 0100 | 9205 | VA7MWR |
| Radio Club Satelite XE1RCS Net | Saturday | 0100 | 9209 | XE1YJS / XE1E |
| VE3WIK Net | Saturday | 0100 | 9310 | ? |
| Kids Net | Saturday | 0100 | 9600 | ? |
| Ham Radio Newcomers | Saturday | 0500 | 9453 | KG6NMQ (Node 3500) |
| Bozo Net | Saturday | 1500 | 9205 | N1NG (Node 3957) |
| QSO Party | Saturday | 2000 | 9700 | M5XYZ (Node 5280) |
| YL Net | 1st / 3rd Saturday | 2100 | 9008 | KC8FRW (Node 2524) |
| VHF-DX Group Net | Sunday | 0100 | 9505 | VK2KU (Node 6000) |
| IRLP SKYWARN Net | <u>Sunday</u> | <u>0100</u> | <u>9219</u> | KD4RAA |
| IRLP Fun Net | Sunday | 0200 | 9305 | ? |
| Fraser Valley Sunday Night Wild Card Net | Sunday | 0500 | 9005 | VE7NM (Node 1461) |
| Waikato VHF Group | Sunday | 0830 | 9505 | ZL1AMW (Node 6549) |
| Swedish Net | Sunday | 1500 | 9800 | SM6UQP (Node 9800) |
| Roadrunners Net | Sunday | <u>1530</u> | <u>9205</u> | N1NG (Node 3957) |
| Ontario ARES Net | Sunday (Ontario) | 2000 (Ontario) | <u>9005</u> | <u>VA3RX</u> |
| PROCOM NET PROVINICIAL COMMUNICA TIONS | <u>THURSDAY</u> | <u>8:30 PM</u> <u>E.S.T.</u> | IRLP REF. 9206 | VE3EUI <u>DENNY</u> |
| <u>TECHNET</u> | FRIDAY NIGHT | 8:00 PM E.S.T | IRLP REF. 9008 | VE3BQQ <u>REG.</u> |
| L.A.R.C. 2M/A.R.E.S. NET | <u>TUESDAY</u> | 7:00 PM E.S.T. | 147.060-YQT | VA3OJ RANDY |

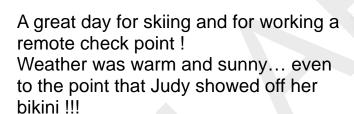
Thanks to Brad VE3MXJ

CANWARN TRAINING:

Training will take place on **Monday, May 8th at 7:30pm - 9:30pm**St. John's Ambulance Center (518 Fort William Rd)
Refreshments, and snacks will be provided.

Sibley Ski Tour 2006 - Views of Checkpoint 4





(Look closely at one of the photos)



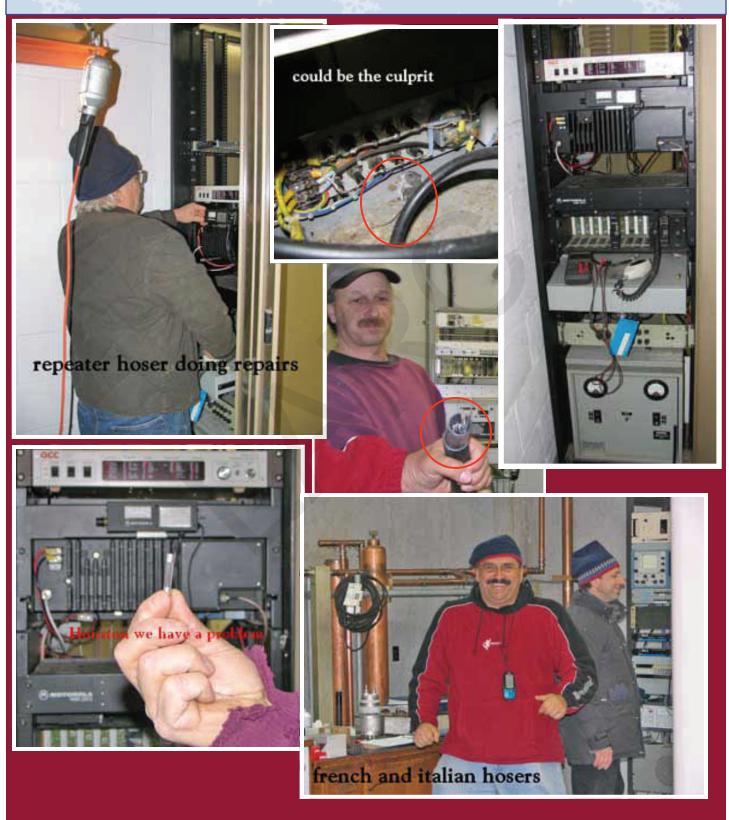




Tnx to Wayne VA3WRL for the photos!



A Trip to YQT for 'mergency' Repairs

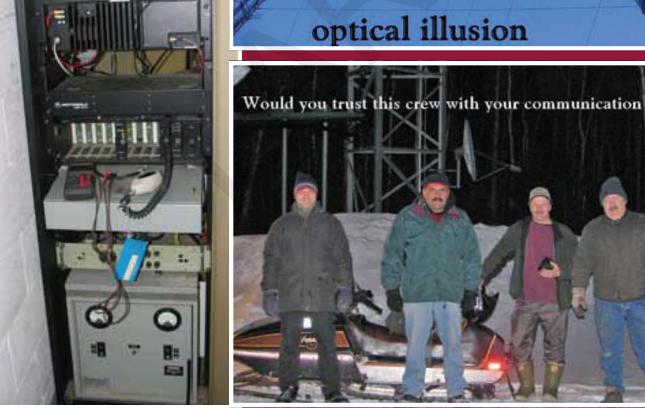


MORE PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE!









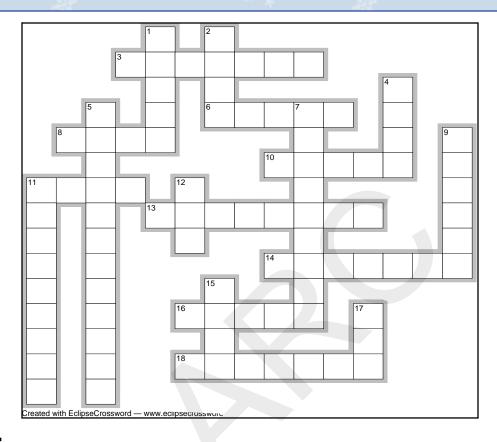


Tnx to Randy VA3OJ for the great photos!



Semiconductor Puzzle

by Ed VE3SNW



Across

- 3. most common element, the junction barrier voltage is .7 V
- 6. this type of diode cell likes to stay in the sun
- 8. P type material has these where electrons ought to be
- 10. high gain direct coupled differential amplifier or this for short
- 11. microwave oscillator
- 13. this gets attached when things get hot
- 14. a manic depressive transistor?
- 16. this diode always goes in backwards
- 18. depletion mode junction device, the gates are sometime gold

Down

- 1. commonly used as rectifiers, made from a single junction
- 2. this voltage can be applied forward or backward
- 4. to limit the amplitude of a sine wave with a diode
- 5. this diode has a lot less internal capacitance than a junction diode
- 7. transistors are most often found in this kind of circuit
- 9. integrated circuit that is not digital is this....a straight line
- 11. small signal diodes are made of this but I don't know what it has to do with germans
- 12. these diodes glow in the dark
- 15. current amplification factor
- 17. do farmers grow this kind of transistor?

Put your thinking cap on! Answers in May Hi-Q to give you time to work this out!

Answers to March 2006 Puzzle Propagation

How did you do?

- 1. **MULTIHOP**—more than one bounce
- 4. SPORADICE—happens occasionally, usually in the spring
- 7. SOLARCYCLE—every eleven years!
- MAGNETIC—if the earth didn't have this field...my compass wouldn't work
- 9. SKIP—if you are in this zone you won't hear a thing
- 12. FLARE—an eruption on the sun
- 13. ANTENNA—yagi, windom, vertical, dipole for example
- 14. DENSE—thick
- 15. SOLAR—A SAILBOAT CAN'T USE THIS KIND OF WIND
- 17. ION—an atom becomes this when it loses an electron
- GROUND—this wave is vertically polarized and is afraid of heights
- CRITICAL—this frequency penetrates the ionosphere instead of returning to earth...sounds like it belongs in a hospital
- SCATTER—my signal is going all over the place, forward and back
- COMMUNICATION—some people lack this skill, but it is what we hams do
- 26. FEEDLINE—this gets the signal to the antenna
- 27. NVIS—Short for Near Vertical Incidence Signals

Down

- 1. **MUF**—Frequencies above this head out into space
- HAWAII—One of these stations in in Colorado, the other one is here
- IONOSPHERE—Part of the atmosphere where radio waves get bent
- 5. SUNSPOT—cooler region on the sun
- 6. MERGE—At night the F layers do this
- 10. TROPOSPHERIC—this wave is bent in the lower atmosphere
- 11. LAYERS—d,e,f1,f2 are this
- **12. FADING**—the signal strength keeps going up and down
- **16. ABSORPTION**—this is inversely proportional to frequency, also a good quality in a paper towel.
- **18. LUF**—Frequencies below this are absorbed in the D layer
- 20. DUCTING—my furnace would use this kind of propagation
- VIRTUAL—This isn't the real height of the ionosphere, and it changes with frequency
- BEACONS—listening to these stations can give you some idea of the conditions



A Look at YQT thru Google Earth - tnx to Wayne VA3WRL

A multifunction antenna system

Phil VE3AXL

Amateurs are always looking for the ultimate antenna. We all have out preferences and opinions, but our choice of antennas are usually based on experience, availability of materials and the environment where we will be operating.



I would like to offer an antenna system that is efficient, light, compact, and can be erected into a wide variety of antenna configurations.

My system consists of 80 feet of #20 flexible speaker wire. Homebuilding center \$ 10.00.

With this piece of wire, which can fit in the palm of my hand, I have many possible antenna configurations as well as my feed line.

Let's take a look. If you strip some insulation off the ends of the parallel wire and twist the two wires together at each end, you have an 80-foot end fed antenna. With a suitable counterpoise you can erect a variety of end fed antennas, verticals, inverted L, inverted V, slopers, there are many possibilities.

For dipoles you can take that parallel speaker wire and measure out ¼ wavelength for the band you wish to operate. For 40m, the ¼ wavelength is 33.3 feet. Measure out that length from one end and tie a light knot at this point. Pull the parallel wires apart up to the knot, and now you have a ½ wavelength antenna and the rest is feed line to the antenna tuner.

To carry this further, mark the wire at the ¼ wavelengths of all the bands you wish to operate. Pick your band mark. Tie your knot, open the line to the knot and you are all set to go. Actually I prefer to use a plastic clip rather than a knot. Knots get tight and are hard to undo with cold fingers.

I know some of you are will be concerned with using speaker wire as a feed line. Everything that I have read says parallel line is more efficient. I do know that it works well, and I have had great success even on ssb with my 5 watts.

Most stations are amazed when they are told that I am only running QRP.

No longer will I carry heavy coax, or bulky feed line.

I hope you will give this a try and have as much success with it as I have. $\!\!\! \lozenge$

Check in the LARC 2 Meter ARES Net on YQT every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm local time





thanks to John. **VE3EMI**



Mysteries of the 9/11 Pentagon Strike

http:// www.pentagonstrike.co.uk /flash.htm#Main

Lightning Season is almost here!! http://www.sirlinksalot.net/ lightning.html

National Lightning Safety Institute http://www.lightningsafety .com/

Avoiding Interference in the 2.4 GHz Band

http://www.mwee.com/showA rticle.jhtml?articleID=1637006 31

> An Introduction to Bluetooth

http://www.wirelessdevnet .com/channels/bluetooth/f eatures/bluetooth.html

800 Mhz Band Rebanded

Info on reconfiguring the 800 Mhz band

http://www.radioreference.com/ wiki/index.php/Rebanding -Rob VE3FLB

Editors QSK...

Spring is finally here!

It's kinda nice to be able to get outside and work on some of those projects that require some room to maneuver!

Phil VE3AXL has bought himself a 40 foot portable telescoping fiberglass pole that will set up in minutes. He is working on a way to speedily connect a type of antenna to the pole that is very portable and compact in size. I think that eventually he is thinking of taking this along on his kayaking excursions to keep in contact with us as well as DX?

I have a 32 foot similar fiberglass pole that compresses to about 40 inches or so. I used this last winter during the Freeze Your Buns Off (FYBO) outing and found it worked well even in -25 degree weather. It took only minutes to set up and with the center of an inverted V connected to the top, and sticking it in a snow bank worked great!

Now with the better weather, hopefully I can try this out further this summer for camping and day trips.

Donated to the club was a couple of truckloads of VHF handheld radios, repeaters, mobile units, racks, etc.

Our members snapped up most of the donated VHF handhelds in short order after they were checked and reprogrammed by Terry VA3LU. This was a great opportunity to raise some extra funds for the club.

I purchased a programmed mobile unit and find it works and sounds great!

Kudos to Terry VA3LU for his efforts in turning these units into ham radios in short order!

Thanks to all the contributors for this months Hi-Q! Your newsletter is only as good as we all make it!

That's it for now.

73, Leo VE3ATC

email: ve3atc@spruce.ca

Ps. Not a writer and have a story or pictures? Contact me and I will help get it out!

Next regular meeting

Next regular meeting

Thursday April 13, 2006

McIntyre Building, Confederation College

Room 191

7:30 pm EDT

CONFUCIUS SAY.....

Confucius say...

"A streaker is someone who is unsuited for his work."

Confucius Say...

"Man who sit on tack get point."

Confucius Say...

"Man who run in front of car get tired."

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

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Hi-Q is published monthly on the Sunday preceding the monthly meeting.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, except for July and August. Your submissions are welcome at any time. Submit early to ensure publication in next issue! Send to editor at ve3atc@spruce.ca



LARC is a member of RAC

LARC PUBLIC SERVICES

ARES

District Emergency CoordinatorVE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

Emergency Coordinator

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631 VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628 VA3JMS John 767-3631

RAC

Radio Amateurs of Canada

| LARC SENATE | Keith Fiske Pat Doherty Dave Kimpton Laurie Bridgett Terry Stewardson Ed Baumann | VE3JQ VE3PD VE3AVS VE3BCD VA3LU VE3SNW | | |
|----------------|--|--|----------|--|
| LARC | President | | | |
| EXECUTIVE | John Sacek | VA3JMS | 767-3631 | |
| 2005—2006 | Vice-President | | | |
| 2000 | Bob Hansen | VE3RVA | 767-6924 | |
| | Secretary | | 0 /00 | |
| | Terry Stewardson Treasurer | VA3LU | 577-9439 | |
| | | VE3TBX | 344-6566 | |
| | Joe Coghlan Directors | | 344-0500 | |
| | Brad Harris | VE3MXJ | 767-0628 | |
| | Manuel Migueis | VE3MPT | 475-5686 | |
| | Fort Michelizzi | VE3MCZ | 475-0971 | |
| | Mark Vaillant | | | |
| | Past President | | | |
| | Bill Unger | VE3XT | 344-1848 | |
| | | | | |

About LARC

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club members have all levels of interest and knowledge in the wide spectrum of amateur radio.

Monthly meetings and contact with other members allow us to share and discuss different ideas, and to learn from each other.

LARC membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through June at 7:30 PM local time at the McIntyre Building, Confederation College

Room 191

Each meeting consists of a mix of technical and light-hearted topics, with a break for meeting friends and new friends.

Anyone with an interest in ham radio is invited to join us.

Amateur radio classes are also administered by LARC to help you with your Amateur Radio License contact any of the Executive members above for more information